



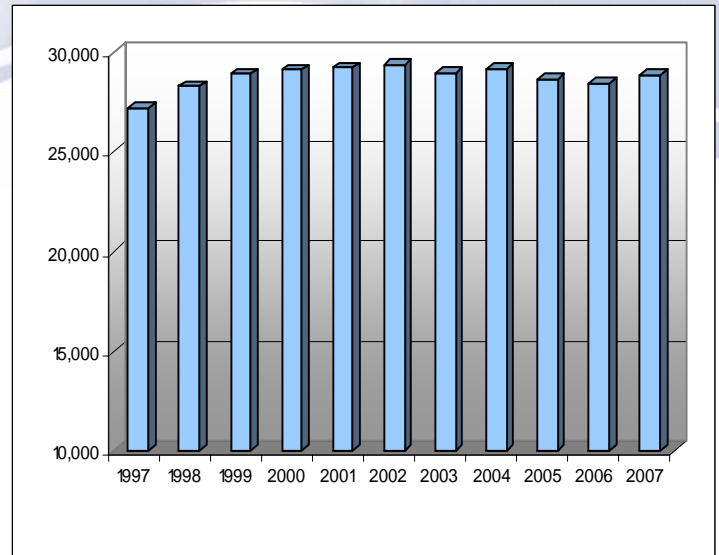
Elmore County

October 2008

Work Force Trends

Population

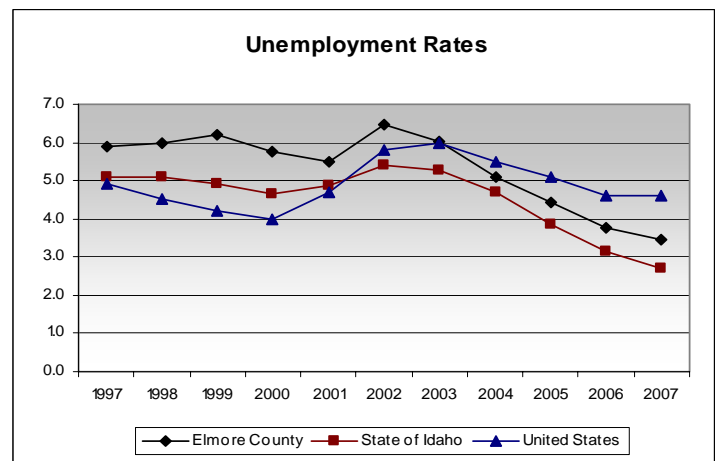
Elmore County is Idaho's 14th most populous county and ranks as the sixth largest in area of Idaho's 44 counties. Seventy-two percent of the county is federally owned. The county's population has experienced some ups and downs through the years but during the 10-year period of 1997 to 2007 it increased by 6.2 percent, down from the 9.6 percent recognized from 1996 to 2006. This increase amounts to 1,688 new residents since 1997, 475 of this total came in 2007 alone. Elmore County is home to the Mountain Home Air Force Base located in the southwestern corner of the county near the city of Mountain Home. The base is home to a significant population of military personnel and their families.



Labor Force & Employment

Despite the slowing growth rate of Elmore County's population, the civilian labor force continues to expand. From 1996 to 2006 the labor force increased by 24.3 percent adding 2,118 people to the work force. The growth rate also increased during the next ten year period of 1997 to 2007 by 24.5 percent. The addition of a new major employer, Marathon Cheese, has been the driver behind this labor force growth the past couple of years. Marathon Cheese offers good jobs for Elmore County residents that come with benefits and has given some residents an alternative to commuting to Ada County. For the second straight year Elmore County's unemployment rate came in below the level commonly viewed as full employment at 3.7 percent in 2006 and an even lower 3.5 percent in 2007. Elmore County's labor force is unique in that military personnel at Mountain Home Air Force Base are not counted in the civilian labor force, therefore, it is likely that more people are in the labor force than the figures indicate.

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Elmore County continued to

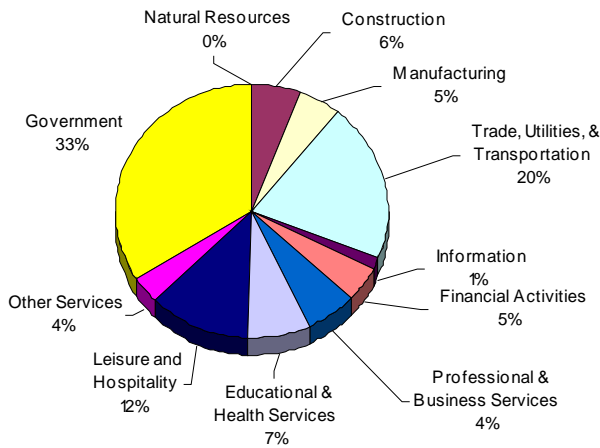


increased in 2007 led by manufacturing, construction and financial activities. Construction and financial activities continued their gains in Elmore County as lower housing prices, a healthy population gain and the introduction of a new manufacturing industry to the county in the form of Marathon Cheese kept the economy of Elmore County healthy in 2007. Most industry sectors added jobs including agriculture as high commodity prices have helped area farms and the economy in general perform well during the year. Government continues its decline however, as the cut backs announced in the base realignment and closure activities continue to be implemented.

Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	10,733	11,051
Total Employment	10,322	10,430
Unemployed	410	620
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.8	5.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	8,936	9,212	9,236	10,594	10,960	10,935	10,679	10,710	10,822	10,829	11,140
Unemployment	531	549	570	612	603	707	642	544	478	410	387
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.9	6.0	6.2	5.8	5.5	6.5	6.0	5.1	4.4	3.8	3.5
Employment	8,405	8,663	8,666	9,982	10,357	10,229	10,036	10,166	10,345	10,419	10,752

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



Per Capita Income & Employment

According to the latest Census data, Elmore County ranks 15th in the state in per capita income at \$25,786. The increase in 2005's income was over \$1,200 but despite this, Elmore County's ranking of per capita income fell from 2004's rank of 14th in the state.

Over 50 percent of the jobs in the county are in trade, utilities and transportation and government with average wages of \$25,706 and \$31,774. The Mountain Home Air Force Base has a large number of civilian employees, and there are a large number of occupations in the area that support workers on and around the base.

Major Employers

NAF Financial Management Branch
Best Western Foot Hills Motor Inn
City of Mountain Home
Elmore Medical Center
Elmore County
Three Springs Inc
Glenns Ferry School District
Pioneer Federal Credit Union
Mountain Home Air Force Base
Mountain Home School District
Wal-Mart
Marathon Cheese

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wage

Shipping, Receiving, Traffic Clerks	\$11.12
Fork Lift Driver	\$8.98
Construction Laborer	\$9.31
Cook	\$8.42
Truck Driver	\$11.49
Agricultural Workers	\$7.10
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$14.67
Registered Nurse	\$18.70
Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	\$12.17

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	6,065	\$18,118	6,682	\$25,948	6,979	\$26,690
Agriculture	486	\$17,022	413	\$20,537	430	\$22,441
Mining	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	244	\$23,044	363	\$32,053	393	\$32,101
Manufacturing	418	\$15,107	222	\$21,544	324	\$25,276
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	1,049	\$17,167	1,286	\$25,144	1,316	\$25,715
Information	84	\$22,070	100	\$34,628	97	\$37,919
Financial Activities	181	\$19,797	271	\$41,026	285	\$39,321
Professional and Business Services	200	\$19,176	363	\$28,395	392	\$29,637
Educational and Health Services	305	\$16,971	479	\$22,318	505	\$24,102
Leisure and Hospitality	678	\$8,206	756	\$11,184	777	\$11,218
Other Services	152	\$13,559	185	\$17,384	175	\$18,040
Government	2,255	\$21,854	2,242	\$30,712	2,284	\$31,259

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Elmore County	\$17,904	\$18,264	\$19,198	\$20,138	\$20,830	\$22,120	\$22,709	\$24,108	\$25,116	\$26,476
State of Idaho	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
United States	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:

Idaho Department of Labor
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Mountain Home, ID 83647-0160 Ph: (208) 364-7788

labor.idaho.gov

This publication is produced by Idaho Department of Labor funded at least in part by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Labor.
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